

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 30 and 45-48 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Marten et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,847,027) and Majumdar et al. (US 2003/0100656) are the closest prior art. Marten et al. teaches a method including mixing a cyclocarbonate resin, a clay and a hardener and curing. However, Marten et al. does not disclose the thickness or aspect ratio of the clay. Majumdar et al. teaches clay added to a polymer mixture as filler, and discloses the claimed aspect ratio and thickness, but the clay of Majumdar et al. is a nanocomposite formed from the nano-clay. Further, Majumdar et al. does not disclose the clay in a polyurethane composition or that the clay is mixed in with the reactants. There is no teaching or motivation to add the claimed clay to the reactants of a non-isocyanate based polyurethane.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Correspondence***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MEGAN MCCULLEY whose telephone number is

(571)270-3292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Eashoo can be reached on (571) 272-1197. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. M./  
Examiner, Art Unit 1767

/Mark Eashoo/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1767